

Senate Study Bill 1256

SENATE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION BILL BY
CO=CHAIRPERSON McKINLEY)

Passed Senate, Date _____ Passed House, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to state aid for teacher shortage incentives.
2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:
3 TLSB 3048XC 81
4 kh/gg/14

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1 1 Section 1. Section 257.31, Code 2005, is amended by adding
1 2 the following new subsection:
1 3 NEW SUBSECTION. 18. a. If funds are appropriated by the
1 4 general assembly for use by the school budget review committee
1 5 for purposes of granting state aid to school districts that
1 6 are experiencing teacher shortages, the school budget review
1 7 committee shall develop aid approval criteria in the following
1 8 order of priority:
1 9 (1) Shortages in teaching positions requiring an
1 10 endorsement in mathematics or science, with teaching positions
1 11 for higher grades having a higher priority.
1 12 (2) The school district receives supplementary weighting
1 13 under a sharing arrangement or sharing agreement pursuant to
1 14 chapter 257.
1 15 (3) The length of time a teaching position has remained
1 16 unfilled.
1 17 (4) The unfilled teaching position is needed to continue a
1 18 current program, rather than to begin a new program.
1 19 (5) The nature of the school district's proposed plan for
1 20 use of the state aid and the plan's relationship to improving
1 21 educational opportunities for students.
1 22 b. In addition to the aid approval criteria developed
1 23 pursuant to paragraph "a", the school budget review committee
1 24 shall allocate grants in the following manner:
1 25 (1) Twenty=five percent of the state aid available for
1 26 purposes of this subsection each year shall be awarded to
1 27 school districts with an enrollment of one thousand one
1 28 hundred ninety=nine students or less.
1 29 (2) Twenty=five percent of the state aid available for
1 30 purposes of this subsection each year shall be awarded to
1 31 school districts with an enrollment of more than one thousand
1 32 one hundred ninety=nine students but not more than four
1 33 thousand seven hundred fifty students.
1 34 (3) Twenty=five percent of the state aid available for
1 35 purposes of this subsection each year shall be awarded to
2 1 school districts with an enrollment of more than four thousand
2 2 seven hundred fifty students.
2 3 (4) Twenty=five percent of the state aid available for
2 4 purposes of this subsection each year, any state aid not
2 5 awarded under subparagraphs (1) through (3), and state aid not
2 6 awarded in previous fiscal years shall be awarded to school
2 7 districts with any size enrollment.
2 8 c. To be eligible for teacher shortage aid under this
2 9 subsection, a school district shall annually submit an
2 10 application, on forms prescribed by the committee, that
2 11 documents the efforts made by the district to fill the
2 12 teaching position for which aid under this subsection is
2 13 sought and includes a plan that describes how the aid sought
2 14 will be used by the school district.
2 15 d. Aid received by a school district under this subsection
2 16 may be expended for the following purposes:
2 17 (1) A signing bonus for the practitioner hired by the

2 18 school district to fill the teacher shortage position.
2 19 (2) To pay an enhanced salary to a practitioner hired by
2 20 the school district to fill the teacher shortage position.
2 21 (3) Other incentives as approved by the committee.
2 22 e. Aid received by a school district under this subsection
2 23 shall be miscellaneous income and shall not be included in
2 24 district cost.
2 25 f. Within thirty days of receiving aid under this
2 26 subsection, the school district shall submit to the committee
2 27 a copy of the contract entered into pursuant to section 279.13
2 28 by the school district and the practitioner hired by the
2 29 school district to fill the teacher shortage position. A
2 30 school district that fails to meet the requirements of this
2 31 paragraph shall return to the committee any aid received under
2 32 this subsection. Moneys returned by a school district
2 33 pursuant to this paragraph shall be used by the committee for
2 34 the purposes stated in this subsection.
2 35 g. Notwithstanding section 8.33, if the amount of state
3 1 aid awarded under this subsection in a fiscal year is less
3 2 than the maximum amount appropriated for state aid for that
3 3 fiscal year, the amount of the difference shall be carried
3 4 forward to subsequent fiscal years for purposes of providing
3 5 state aid in accordance with this subsection and the maximum
3 6 amount available for state aid for each fiscal year shall be
3 7 adjusted accordingly.

3 8 EXPLANATION

3 9 This bill provides that if the general assembly
3 10 appropriates moneys for state aid for school districts
3 11 experiencing teacher shortages, the school budget review
3 12 committee shall develop prioritized aid approval criteria and
3 13 shall distribute aid based on school district size to school
3 14 districts that meet the criteria and submit an application
3 15 that documents the efforts made by the district to fill the
3 16 teaching position and includes a plan that describes how the
3 17 school district will use the aid sought. Moneys appropriated
3 18 that remain unexpended shall be carried forward for use for
3 19 the same purposes in subsequent years.

3 20 The bill permits the state aid received by a school
3 21 district to be used as a signing bonus or to pay an enhanced
3 22 salary to a practitioner hired by the school district to fill
3 23 the teacher shortage position, or for any other incentive
3 24 approved by the committee.

3 25 Within 30 days of receiving such aid, the school district
3 26 must submit to the committee a copy of the contract entered
3 27 into with the practitioner hired to fill the teacher shortage
3 28 position, or forfeit the aid.

3 29 LSB 3048XC 81

3 30 kh:nh/gg/14.1